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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/816,877

04/05/2004

Steven E. Strauss

Strauss 13

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46900

7590

10/21/2008

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EXAMINER

PARRIES, DRU M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2836

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/21/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/816,877	Applicant(s) STRAUSS, STEVEN E.	
	Examiner DRU M. PARRIES	Art Unit 2836	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed June 26, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Regarding the Applicant's assertion that Admission teaches away from measuring power and voltage at a plurality of locations, the Examiner strongly disagrees. Just because a reference is silent on a particular aspect of an invention doesn't mean the reference is teaching *away* from it. For example, just because Admission doesn't mention measuring power and voltage at different locations on the integrated circuit, does NOT mean he is teaching away from that idea and therefore can't be modified by another reference (i.e. Brodeur) to include those features.

Also, regarding the amended claim limitations reciting "augmenting power...compensating for power fluctuations...", Brodeur teaches a plurality of voltage regulators (35-38) augmenting power supplied to said power rail (by controlling switch, 35), and supplying it to the plurality of sections (Vout1, Vout2). Also, Brodeur teaches a first regulator (31-34, 42) which augments power supplied to the rail based on power fluctuations between the plurality of sections (communicated via integrator, 41), then subsequently, the voltage supplied to each of the plurality of sections from the power rail is different (since the voltage on the power rail has changed due to the augmentation via the first regulator), and subsequently, the plurality of voltage regulators (35-38) augment the power received, compensating for power fluctuations between the plurality of sections.

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Also, Brodeur's plurality of regulators (35-38) can increase and/or decrease the power supplied to the plurality of sections by controlling switch (35). If the switch is closed, the power will increase, and vice versa.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, and 4-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art (Admission) and Brodeur (6,525,434). Admission teaches an integrated circuit with a power management architecture including power rails supplying power to a plurality of sections (three sections, each including one of 402, 403, 404). Admission teaches a first integrated voltage regulator (500) to supply power to said power rail. (Fig. 5) He fails to teach a plurality of voltage regulators and voltage meters, the inner workings of the first integrated voltage regulator, and a control system. Brodeur teaches the inner workings of a first voltage regulator (31-34, 42), a plurality of voltage regulators (35-38) and a plurality of voltage meters (nodes closest to V_{out} , connected to 38), each being associated with a different section (with a different V_{out}), and all sections have a voltage meter. He also teaches augmenting the voltage of the first voltage regulator being controlled based on voltage levels of said plurality of sections (info received from 41), to compensate for power fluctuations between the plurality of sections. Brodeur also teaches augmenting the output voltage of each of the plurality of voltage regulators being controlled (via 35, 38), based on the voltage level measured at each voltage meter, to be

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able to supply the correct power to the power rail and each load that is being powered by each section, and to compensate for power fluctuations between the plurality of sections of the circuit. Brodeur also teaches a power manager (42, 38, 41) to receive a measured plurality of voltage levels from each of said plurality of sections and to control the augmented power (Fig. 2) It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the inner workings of Brodeur's first voltage regulator in Admission's first integrated voltage regulator since Admission was silent on this issue and Brodeur teaches a version that is known in the art. It also would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement the plurality of voltage regulators and voltage meters, and the control system of Brodeur's system, associated with each section of the system, into each section of Admission's invention so that each section of the system could have the precise output voltage necessary for each section and in turn would add more versatility to the system to be able to power a more diverse grouping of loads. Also, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to implement Brodeur's elements (voltage regulators, meters, etc.), into the Admitted Art's invention, in integrated circuit form, so that Admitted Art's invention can still function properly.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO**

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MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dru M. Parries whose telephone number is (571) 272-8542. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday -Thursday from 9:00am to 6:00pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Sherry, can be reached on 571-272-2084. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DMP

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/Stephen W Jackson/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2836